

In the claims:

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a socket grid of a socket to receive pins from an integrated circuit component;
a frame of the socket coupled to the socket grid to provide structural support; and
a cable connector integrated into the socket to receive a cable, the cable connector having guides to assist in guiding a cable into engagement with the cable connector, a set of contact prongs to establish electrical connection with a cable, and an actuator lever pivotally attached to the socket operable to retain a cable in the cable connector and to move the contact prongs into electrical connection with the cable.
2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein signals are routed through the socket.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the routed signals are routed to a motherboard.
4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the signals are selected from a group comprising I/O signals, power signals, ground signals, and combinations thereof.
5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the power signals and the ground signals are routed through the socket to the motherboard and the I/O signals are routed through the socket to the cable connector.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the I/O signals are routed through the socket to the cable connector and are not routed to the motherboard.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further including an actuator lever pivotally coupled to the frame to hold the component in place.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the component is an integrated circuit (IC).

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the IC is one of a CPU and a chipset.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein at least one of the contact prongs is spring loaded to assist in engaging the cable.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein at least one of the contact prongs is self-piercing to establish electrical contact with the cable.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the frame and the socket grid are manufactured as a single piece.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
a central processing unit (CPU); and
a memory coupled to the CPU to store data for operation by the CPU;
and wherein the integrated circuit component is the CPU.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 further including a memory control hub coupled between the memory and the CPU.

16 - 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting an integrated circuit component comprising:

placing the integrated circuit component in a socket, the socket having a grid to receive pins from the component; and

connecting a cable to a cable connector integrated into the socket to receive the cable, the cable having guides to assist in guiding the cable into engagement with the cable connector, a set of contact prongs to establish electrical connection with a cable, and an actuator lever pivotally attached to the socket operable to retain the cable in the cable connector, the cable connector routing signals between the cable and the pins and to move the contact prongs into electrical connection with the cable.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 further including routing one or more signals through the socket.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the one or more signals are power signals.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the routed signals are routed between the pins and the cable connector.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cable connector comprises a latch to secure a cable in the cable connector.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cable connector comprises a cable receptacle.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein signals are routed between the pins and the cable receptacle.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the signals comprise at least one of I/O signals, power signals and ground signals.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
a motherboard;

a central processing unit (CPU), the CPU being the integrated circuit component, the pins of which are received by the socket;

a memory control hub (MCH);

an MCH socket to receive the MCH, the MCH socket having a cable connector;

a cable to interconnect the CPU socket cable connector and the MCH socket cable connector.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the cable carries I/O signals and does not carry power signals between the CPU and the MCH.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the cable comprise a computer flex cable.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the MCH socket cable connector comprises a latch to secure the cable.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein connecting the cable comprises inserting a cable along the guides of the cable connector into a cable receptacle and operating the actuator lever to secure the cable.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising:

placing a second component in a second socket, the second socket having a grid to receive pins from the second component; and

connecting the cable to a second cable connector integrated into the second socket, the second cable connector routing signals between the cable and the pins of the second socket.